

III. State Hazardous Materials Incident Response Teams

Mission Statement

To create and establish strategically located, specially trained and equipped regional hazardous materials incident response teams (regional teams) using the combined resources of the state of Montana, local governments, and private industry. The state response teams' mission is to protect Montana's citizens, environment, natural resources, and property from the effect of hazardous material releases or the threat of release of hazardous materials.

Goals

Goal 1: To provide emergency responders with timely, up-to-date information, in a readily accessible manner, which may be used as a basis for emergency operations decisions.

Goal 2: To assist local governments in responding to and mitigating the effects of hazardous materials incidents.

Goal 3: To provide emergency responders with appropriate hazardous materials training to meet operational and regulatory requirements.

Goal 4: To provide regional teams with appropriate equipment and training to support other emergency responders at hazardous materials incidents.

Policies

The State of Montana recognizes that local governments have primary responsibility for the mitigation of hazardous materials emergencies. For those incidents where the local officials ask the State for assistance, the State Hazardous Materials Incident Response Team (SHMIRT) will provide emergency hazardous materials incident response coverage.

The regional hazardous materials incident response teams, as components of the SHMIRT, will be strategically located in authorized agencies identified by the SERC.

Trained HAZMAT personnel from host agencies will staff the regional teams. Those agencies at their sole discretion may include members on their team who are not regular members of their organization.

The regional teams will use NIMS and will not respond to an incident until the IC has been established at the incident. The team will work under the direct supervision of a Team Leader.

Administrative and legal operations of the regional response team components and the SHMIRT are to be consistent with administrative rules adopted by the state. Such rules must meet statutory guidelines and operational needs.

The Montana Hazardous Materials Response Plan in addition to CFR 1910.120 and NFPA 472 and other applicable standards addressing will guide response team operations including:

- Personnel
- Regulatory compliance
- Equipment standards
- Insurance requirements
- Training requirements
- Certification requirements
- Records and reporting
- Medical surveillance
- Billing/cost recovery program
- Decontamination Procedures

Coordination with other Government Agencies

The State of Montana and its State Hazardous Materials Incident Response Team is committed to the principles of integrated emergency management. Command and control functions will use NIMS.

SHMIRT Agencies

The SERC will determine what agencies will have SHMIRT Teams and only those agencies will be authorized by the SERC.

Training and performance

The State of Montana will provide specialized training to response team personnel through the SERC. State regional response team training programs will address the federal training levels as outlined in the "Training Specifications" section of this plan. Criteria for the authorization of teams will be defined in the authorization process section of this plan and audited by a committee of the SERC. The teams will be trained in and operate under NIMS.

SHMIRT will be evaluated using the performance criteria established by 29 CFR 1910.120 (q) and National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) Standard 471 and 472.

AUTHORIZATION PROCESS FOR PERSONNEL WITH ADVANCED HAZMAT CAPABILITIES

The following outlines the steps for personnel with advanced hazmat capabilities to become authorized by the SERC:

1. The chief executive of the agency requesting authorization shall submit to the SERC annually, a letter of certification, listing the members of the team, the qualifications of the personnel, and also certification of the minimum required hazardous materials equipment as required by this plan.
2. Once the authorization process has been completed by the SERC, a letter shall be sent to MT-DES validating the agency's team accreditation.

3. Each authorized team will participate, with other regional teams in, at least, one multi-agency hazardous materials exercise a year.
4. The authorized agency will enter into a Memorandum of Understanding with the SERC.
5. If team members change or additional members are added, the chief executive for the agency will submit the changes along with training documentation to the SERC prior to deployment as a team member.

Financial Management

The SHMIRT operates under the administration of the SERC. All fiscal accounting, planning, budgeting, recording, and reporting programs of the team will be the function of the SERC and outlined in memorandums of understanding between the SERC and the response teams.

State Hazardous Materials Incident Response Team Components

A regional SHMIRT consists of a minimum of six members competent at the technician level. Regional teams can be staffed by members of a single agency or may be comprised of personnel from various agencies. Hazardous materials qualified (OSHA 1910.120) positions that are required to be staffed at an incident to which the SHMIRT responds include:

1. Incident Commander - **local agency**
2. Hazmat Team Leader
3. Hazmat Safety Officer - SHMIRT Member
4. Entry Team - SHMIRT
5. Back-up Team - SHMIRT
6. Research - SHMIRT
7. DECON - local agency **or** SHMIRT
8. ALS as defined by state EMT licensing rules - local agency **or** SHMIRT

Depending on the complexity of the incident other positions may be required to provide effective and safe management of the incident.

Minimum Requirements (See Training Requirements – Section VII)

The minimum requirements for regional teams to be considered a component of the SHMIRT include:

1. The chief executive for each regional team will certify training and equipment standards are met for their respective team members.
3. Annual approval as a team by the SERC.
3. Available, 24 hrs/day, 7 days/week for technical assistance by phone.
4. Available to supply 3 team members on-site 24 hrs/day, 7 days/week for initial and extended response for a period not to exceed 10 days. Teams should respond to MT-DES within 30 minutes of the request for a response and advise MT-DES whether they are able/not able to respond.

Minimum Equipment Standards for Hazardous Materials Response

Scope: These standards shall be applicable to the SHMIRT.

Purpose: This standard specifies minimum hazardous material equipment requirements for regional teams involved in mitigating hazardous material related activities. These standards are not intended to restrict jurisdictions from exceeding these minimum equipment standards. It is the intent for a full mobilization of the SHMIRT that this minimum equipment will be on site of the incident and that not every responding team component will be required to bring all of their equipment with them to the incident.

Reference Materials:

NFPA Fire Protection Guide on Hazardous Materials

Condensed Chemical Dictionary

A Farm Chemical Reference Book (Farm Chemical Handbook, AG Products Safety Manual)

CHRIS Manual, Volumes 1, 2, & 3

Merck Index - current edition

Emergency Care for Hazardous Materials Exposure or HAZMAT Injuries

ACRR HAZMAT Spill Control

NIOSH Pocket Guide To Chemical Hazards

DOT Emergency Response Guide “ERG”

“Janes” Chem-Bio handbook

Miscellaneous Equipment:

Protective Clothing Equipment (NFPA-NIOSH-OSHA approved):

4 Flash Protection suits

8 Level "A" suits

Cryogenic gloves

Hard Hats

Chemical resistant boots

Vinyl Boot Covers

Neoprene Boot Covers

Latex Boot Covers

Butyl Rubber Boot Covers

Fire Boots

Butyl Rubber Gloves

Viton Rubber Gloves

Nitrile Rubber Gloves

PVC/Nitrile Gloves

Neoprene Gloves

Silvershield HAZMAT Gloves

4 - Approved Self Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA)

6 - 1 hour spare bottles for SCBA

Spill/Leak Control Equipment:

Chlorine kit "A"
Access to a Chlorine "B" & Chlorine "C" kit
Adsorbent booms and sheets
2 Dome Clamp set
Plug/Patch Kits
Plug dike
PVC pipe - assorted sizes
Assorted Plumbing adapters
Non-sparking barrel pump
Funnels - assortment
55 & 85 Gallon over pack drums

Monitoring Equipment:

Binoculars
Gas detection monitor (4 gas minimum)
Extension probes
PH Paper
Radiation detector and monitor
PCB Kit
Spill-Father Chemical Classifier
Weather Station
Mercury Spill Kit
Heinz 5 step Field Identification Kit

Tools:

Non-sparking tool kit
Standard tool kit
Shovel, round point and square point, regular and non-sparking
Bung wrench, non-sparking
Pipe wrenches, non sparking
Push broom
Poly broom
Plastic dustpans
Squeegee
Dolly
Pinch or crow bar non-sparking
Sledgehammer, 8 lb.
24" bolt cutter
Drum lifters

Decontamination Equipment:

Acid neutralizer
Caustic neutralizer
Solvent neutralizer
Plastic sheeting
Disposable trash bags

Salvage Covers

Eyewash kit

Disposable latex gloves

Trash cans

Bleach, vinegar, ammonia, soap

Disinfectant

Scrub brushes with handles

Plastic pails

Disposable coveralls with booties and hoods

Wash, rinse and containment system

Communications/ Command Equipment:

Portable Radios, 5 Watt – Programmable Batteries, Chargers, Belt Clips

Cellular phones

Computer Equipment:

PC of choice – Compatible with Regional Teams

9600 baud or greater modem

Portable printer

Portable Fax

Cameo/Aloha Software